



Mike Hagood provides an overview of INL's work to coordinate development of the Western Inland Energy Corridor during the conference.

INL, Idaho cities discuss energy partnerships

by [Marilyn Whitney](#), INL Communications

Idaho National Laboratory helped city officials from across Idaho gather in Boise for the [Association of Idaho Cities \(AIC\)](#) Annual Conference last month. As cities face the effects of the current recession, this year's meeting focused on strengthening partnerships and sharing resources. More than 400 delegates, sponsors and vendors attended this year's event.

Youth delegates from across the state also attended and participated in workshops and field trips. One of their meeting requirements involved participation in a local service project either helping elderly and disabled homeowners in Nampa, Idaho, or working at the Hyatt Wetlands to survey wildlife and perform clean up.



Conference sponsors included [INL](#), [CH2M Hill](#), [Rocky Mountain Power](#), [J-U-B Engineers](#), [ICRMP](#), [Johnson Controls](#), [Idaho Power](#), [Zions Bank](#), [Idaho Cable Telecommunications Association](#) and [McKinstry](#).

[Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter](#), Idaho State Sen. Jim Hammond (Dist. 5), Office of Energy Resources Administrator Paul Kjellander and INL's Mike Hagood gave keynote presentations. Hagood provided an overview of the world-class energy resources and opportunities in the Western Inland Energy Corridor. He emphasized that Idaho is well positioned within this corridor to help the U.S. develop a sustainable energy model and take advantage of the job creation and economic development opportunities this energy corridor can provide.

The Western Energy Corridor contains world-class energy resources. Click map for larger image.

After the luncheon, Hagood lead a breakout session titled, "World Class Energy Resources in Your Backyard." Electricity demand, energy and infrastructure trends, and water resources in the region were among the topics discussed.

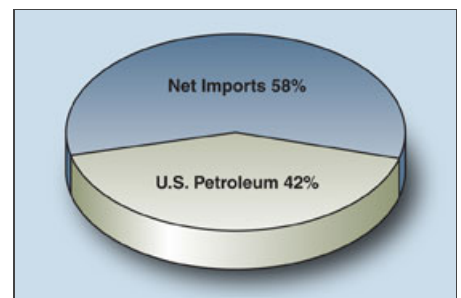
Other workshops and seminars featured information on financing options available to cities through the Federal Stimulus Package, energy efficiency and conservation block grants, economic development opportunities, and environmental management. Mobile workshops included visits to the [Foothills Learning Center](#), the [Boise WaterShed](#) environmental education center and Boise's new branch library.

The AIC, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, is owned and operated by Idaho's city governments and serves as an advocacy group for the state's 200 incorporated cities.

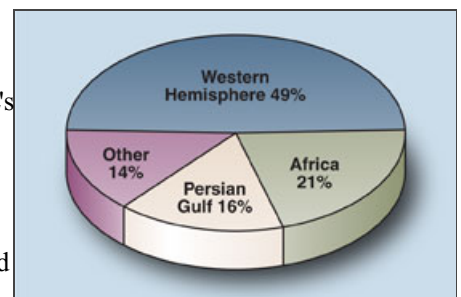
View the complete presentation, "[The Western Energy Corridor: An Overview of Strategic Resources and Trends Critical to North American Energy Security and Prosperity](#)."

Visit the [Association of Idaho Cities](#).

[Feature Archive](#)



Net imports and domestic petroleum as shares of U.S. demand (2007)



Sources of U.S. petroleum imports (2007)

Hagood's presentation addressed the need to increase domestic power supplies. Source for graphs: Energy Information Administration